

**CLAIMS:**

1. A security fastener comprising a first end terminating in a stop member for substantially permanent insertion into an article, requiring destruction of the fastener for removal, a second end having an enlarged member and a connection member between said first end and said second end, wherein the fastener further comprises means for retaining security information.
2. The security fastener of Claim 1 wherein the stop member comprises a T-shaped member for insertion into an article.
3. The security fastener of Claim 1 wherein the means for retaining security information is taken from the group consisting of writing, printing, pre-printed labels, bar codes, radio frequency technology, magnetic technology.
4. The security fastener of Claim 3 wherein the means for retaining security information is incorporated into at least a portion of a separate tag having an aperture through which the fastener passes.
5. The security fastener of Claim 3 wherein the means for retaining security information is incorporated into at least a portion of the enlarged member.
6. A method of securing an article, at least a portion of which comprises a material through which a needle can pass, comprising the step of passing a needle with a stop member of a fastener through the material of the article to be secured, said fastener comprising a first end terminating in the stop member, a second end having an enlarged member and a connection member between said first end and said second end, wherein removal of said fastener requires destruction of the fastener.
7. The method of Claim 6 wherein the fastener further comprises means for retaining security information is taken from the group consisting of writing, printing, pre-printed labels, bar codes, radio frequency technology and magnetic technology.
8. The method of Claim 6 further comprising the steps of passing the stop member of the fastener through a zipper of the article prior to passing the stop member through the material of the article.

9. The method of Claim 6 further comprising the step of passing the stop member through a security or identification tag prior to passing the stop member through the material of the article.
10. The method of Claim 6 further comprising the step of adding security information  
5 to the fastener prior to passing the stop member through the material of the article.
11. The method of Claim 6 further comprising the step of searching an article prior to passing the stop member through the material of the article.